

Message Text

SECRET

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 NEA-14 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14

SAM-01 AID-20 ACDA-19 AEC-11 COA-02 DLOS-07 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5169

INFO CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BANGKOK 11664

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MILI, TH, MOPS, XO

SUBJ: US INDIAN OCEAN PATROLS FROM UTAPAO.

REF: BANGKOK 11547

1. AT A VIN D'DONNEUR HELD AT THE SPANISH EMBASSY THIS NOON I HAD A LONG CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CHARUNPHAN. HE INFORMED ME THAT HE HAD PASSED TO THE PRIME MINISTER THE MATERIALS I HAD LEFT WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AT MY MEETING THERE ON JULY 12 TO DISCUSS RECON-
NAISSANCE FLIGHTS FROM UTAPAO. HE HAD THEM TRANSLATED BEFORE SENDING THEM TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND HE HAD PERSONALLY DIS-
CUSSED OUR MEETING WITH HIM. FROM MY CONVERATION I IN-
FERRED THAT THE DECISION TO TERMINATE THE RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS WAS PROBABLY MADE BETWEEN THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE DEFENSE MINISTER. CHARUNPHAN TOLD ME THAT HE HAD TO DEAL WITH MANY OTHER PEOPLE IN THE RTG BEFORE ARRIVING AT DECISIONS ON CERTAIN ISSUES.

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2. I TOOK THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REITERATE TO HIM THAT THE "THOUGHTS ON THE INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE" WHICH I HAD SENT TO ANAN WITH THE REQUEST THAT THEY BE PASSED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER WERE DEVELOPED SOLELY WITHIN THE MISSION AND WERE NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS HELD BY THE USG, BUT I HOPED THAT THEY WOULD BE HELPFUL IN GIVING SOME IMPRESSIONS AS TO HOW THAILAND MIGHT BE AFFECTED BY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN.

3. CHARUNPHAN REAFFIRMED THAT THAILAND CONSIDERS THE US TO BE ITS CLOSEST FRIEND AND THAT WE MUST WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER TO KEEP IT THAT WAY, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF UNJUSTIFIED STUDENT ALLEGATIONS ABOUT THE US. BY WAY OF EXAMPLE HE CITED A STORY ADVANCED BY SOME STUDENTS AND ECHOED IN PART BY IRRESPONSIBLE ELEMENTS OF THE THAI PRESS THAT EVEN THE THAI PRIME MINISTER CANNOT GET ON BASES ON WHICH US AIR FORCE UNITS ARE STATIONED. CHARUNPHAN MENTIONED THAT HE HAS TO WALK A VERY TIGHT ROPE INDEED AND HE REITERATED THAT WE, THE US, MUST BE CAREFUL HOW WE APPEAR TO THE THAIS.

4. AS ALWAYS, CHARUNPHAN WAS CORDIAL AND GRACIOUS, AND STRESSED THE NEED FOR EVERYONE TO BE PATIENT IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES. AS I HAVE STATED IN PREVIOUS MESSAGES I BELIEVE CHARUNPHAN FINALLY AGREED TO ASK US TO DISCONTINUE RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS FROM UTAPAO IN ORDER NOT TO JEOPARDIZE THE OTHER SECURITY ASSETS WE POSSESS IN THAILAND.

KINTNER

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